

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hitoshi Maejima et al.  
Serial No.: 10/758,161  
Filed: January 15, 2004  
Docket No.: 014737-000001  
Title: DEVICE FOR AND METHOD OF  
FASTENING TWO COMPONENT  
MEMBERS

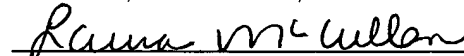
Examiner: Hylton, Robin Annette

Group Art Unit: 3727

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 14, 2005.

  
Laura McCullen

**RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed September 14, 2005 having a reply due date of October 14, 2005. The Applicants herewith petition the Commissioner for Patents to extend the time for response by one (1) month to November 14, 2005. Appropriate fees for the Petition for Extension of Time are included herewith. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested in light of the amendment and remarks below.

In the Election/Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. 121, the Examiner grouped the application into species as follows, indicating that no claims appear to be generic:

Group I illustrative of the embodiment in figures 1A-2,

Group II illustrative of the embodiment in figures 3-5,

Group III illustrative of the embodiment in figures 6-9, and

Group IV illustrative of the embodiment in figures 10-14.

Pursuant to the Election/Restriction Requirement, the Applicants provisionally elect with traverse the species identified by the Examiner as Group IV illustrative of the embodiment in figures 10-14. Applicants submit that claims 1-14 and 21 read on Group IV.